

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/866,180
Reply to Office Action dated November 16, 2005

Remarks

In the subject Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 8-11. Claims 4-7 are allowed. Applicant has canceled claims 1-3 and 8-11 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 4-7 remain pending in the present application. In light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the pending rejections and advancement of this application to allowance.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, and 8 under §103(a) as being obvious over Kito et al. in view of Webb et al. The Examiner also rejected claims 1-3 and 8 as being obvious over Kaido et al. in view of Webb et al. The Examiner finally rejected claims 9-11 as being obvious over Kito et al. or Kaido et al. in view of Webb et al. and further in view of Nakai et al. Applicant traverses these rejections. However, in order to advance prosecution, claims 1-3 and 8-11 have now been canceled (Applicant does not otherwise concede the correctness of these rejections and reserves the right to further prosecute these claims in a continuing application). In view of the cancellation of these claims, these rejections are now moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 4-7 are allowed.

Conclusion

This response is believed to be responsive to all points raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the

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currently pending claims. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney at 612.336.4755 to discuss the same.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: 23 February 2006

By

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